

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

Viewpoint diversity must be measured based on the contents of those viewpoints. A wide range of viewpoints must be represented and given equal time. Radio and television should be forced to make substantial time available for all groups who wish to address the public.

Giant corporate conglomerates are inherently hostile to democracy and widely-disseminated freedom of knowledge, because eventually these will run counter to the profit orientation of the media combines, or to the activities that its advertisers would rather keep hidden.

There is no more important source of information, to the vast majority of the American public, than broadcast television. TV must be forced to give free news time to all parties who request it, because only in such a way can the people's news really be brought to the public eye.

Ownership limits are essential. To the extent that the FCC chooses to weaken or remove regulation of media outlet ownership, the FCC acts a lapdog for multinational corporate interests and to the detriment of American democracy.

More and more, the corporate ownership of the media has meant that important local, national, and international stories go unnoticed. The American people are thus misinformed and without the information needed for their constitutional role as overseers of their own government officials.

Corporate media ownership means that while we may see more faces of black women and other minority groups on TV, we are certainly not hearing about issues of concern to those groups, if the proposed solutions to the issues conflict with the corporate interest.